



DUNCAN CULPEPPER

CIRCUIT JUDGE

Eighth Judicial District—North

Division 2

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January 16, 2007

Mr. James D. Gingerich
Administrative Office of the Courts
625 Marshall Street
Little Rock, AR 72201-1020

RE: Administrative Plan for Eighth Judicial District North

Dear Mr. Gingerich;

As you are aware Wm. Randal Wright has been elected to fill the Division 1
Circuit Judge position.

Judge Wright and I have approved the enclosed Administrative Plan which we have
submitted to Leslie W. Steen, Clerk of the Administrative Office of the Court.

Also, allow your records to reflect that Judge Duncan Culpepper will continue to serve as
the Administrative Judge for the 8th District North..


Wm. Randal Wright, Division 1


Duncan Culpepper, Division 2

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN
FOR
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT NORTH

Pursuant to "Administrative Order Number 14" of the Supreme Court of Arkansas, the Judges of the Eighth Judicial District North adopt the following administrative plan.

1.

The Eighth Judicial District North consists of two circuit judges, namely. Wm. Randal Wright and Duncan Culpepper.

2.

The Eighth Judicial District North shall be divided into two divisions as follows:

DIVISION 1

Wm. Randal Wright

DIVISION 2

Duncan Culpepper

3.

Any decision relating to Amendment 80 of the Arkansas Constitution, to Arkansas Supreme Administrative Order 14, delivered April 6, 2001, subsequent orders and Per Curiam opinions, or to division of cases within the District shall be by unanimous vote of all Circuit Judges in the District. In the event a unanimous vote of all Judges in the District cannot be reached on any matter, then such matter shall be submitted to the Arkansas Supreme Court for final resolution.

At the time a matter is submitted to the Arkansas Supreme Court for final resolution, all Judges of the District shall submit in writing, the matter in dispute with the reasons each Judge believes a matter should be decided in a specific manner.

4.

All Circuit Court Judges within the District shall at all times have the authority and affirmative duty to hear all matters within the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court regardless of the designation of divisions. Scheduling of all cases for court shall be made by the parties involved in any case through the case coordinators of the Circuit Judges.

5.

For the purposes of judicial administration and caseload management, the following subject matter divisions in each county (Hempstead/Nevada) in the District are established:

- A. Criminal
- B. Civil
- C. Juvenile
- D. Probate
- E. Domestic

The establishment of these divisions shall in no way limit the power and duties of any Circuit Judges in the district. Further, no judge is excluded from hearing any case in any subject matter division which may come before him.

6.

This plan has been designed taking into consideration special circumstances within the Judicial District and the individual experience and expertise of all judges.

Wm. Randal Wright was Prosecuting Attorney for the Eighth Judicial District thru December 31, 2006. Judge Wright has a conflict on all criminal cases, juvenile delinquency and Fins cases pending on January 1, 2007, since he was Prosecuting Attorney. Therefore all

criminal, juvenile and Fins cases pending on January 1, 2007, will be heard by Judge Culpepper.

Judge Culpepper will also be assigned all Drug Court cases pending and filed in 2007.

To equalize the case loads between the two Judges 80 % of all Domestic and Civil cases pending on January 1, 2007 in the District will be assigned to and heard by Judge Wright. The balance of the Domestic and Civil cases pending as of January 1, 2007, will be assigned to and heard by Judge Culpepper.

For the calendar year 2007, Judge Wright will be assigned all Juvenile Dependence/
Neglect cases pending and filed in Nevada County. All other juvenile cases pending and filed in the District will be heard by Judge Culpepper.

7.

In considering all circumstances and the individual experiences of the judges in this circuit, for the calendar year, 2007, the division of all new cases filed in the Eighth Judicial District North, subject to the conditions set forth herein, shall be divided as follows:

DIVISION 1		
<u>Wm. Randal Wright</u>		<u>% of Cases</u>
I.	Criminal	66.67 %
II.	Civil	66.67 %
III.	Domestic	66.67 %
IV.	Probate	66.67 %
V.	Juvenile	100 % Nevada County Juvenile Dependency/Neglect cases

DIVISION 2

Duncan M. Culpepper

% of Cases

I. Criminal

33.33 %

II. Civil

33.33 %

III. Domestic

33.33 %

IV. Probate

33.33 %

V. Juvenile

100 % except Dependency/Neglect cases in Nevada County

The Clerk of each subject matter division shall randomly assign all cases to the Judges of the District in the manner set forth above.

8.


Beginning in the calendar year 2008, Wm. Randal Wright will hear all Juvenile Dependency/ Neglect cases filed in Nevada County and Duncan Culpepper will hear all Juvenile Dependency/ Neglect cases filed in Hempstead County. Also, beginning on January 1, 2008, Wm. Randal Wright will hear all pending and filed cases in Drug Court in the calendar year 2008. In 2008, all other cases shall be randomly assigned to each of the two divisions with each judge being assigned 50% of those cases.

- A. Any case, including juvenile cases, in which any judge in the District is available may be heard by the available judge without the necessity of a specific exchange order being submitted to the Administrative Office of the Courts.
 - I. This practice has been followed by the judges in our district in the past for all types of cases, including juvenile; and it has resulted in an almost equal division of cases between judges and the prompt, efficient disposition of cases in the District.
 - II. The above practice has also resulted in the prompt satisfactory disposition

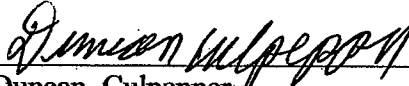
of cases for litigants as well as attorneys.

- B. The assignment of cases in the above manner will prevent a workload imbalance between the judges of the District. Further, while each division of the types of cases between the judges is not equal, the case load between the judges will be almost equal. After the next general election in 2008, the elected judges will submit a new administrative plan to the Arkansas Supreme Court pursuant to "Administrative Order Number 14" and any supplemental orders which may be entered.

This Administrative Plan unanimously adopted by the undersigned this 1st day of January, 2007.



Wm. Randal Wright
Circuit Judge, Division 1



Duncan Culpepper
Circuit Judge, Division 2